

Remarks

Claims 1 and 3-9 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. patent no. 6,356,485 (“Proebsting”) in view of U.S. patent no. 5,845,325 (“Loo”).

Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections because the cited references do not disclose or suggest every element of any pending claim, as the following analysis shows.

Independent claims 1, 3 and 7 each recite that the programmable range may be less than one page, which permits address ranges of fractions of a page in size to be used. Support for this limitation may be found in the specification at page 9 lines 11-14 and page 10 lines 4-5. The office action admits that Proebsting does not disclose programmable ranges at all, and relies on Loos to provide this limitation. However, the circuitry of Loos does not comprehend programmable ranges smaller than one page. As cited in the office action, Loos at col 6 lines 46-48 calculates address ranges in terms of “A” (upper level virtual address bits), “C” (a process identification), and “P” (the page number). As further cited in the office action, Loos at col 7 lines 1-3 also calculates address ranges in terms of “S”, but “S” is defined as exponential multiples of pages. The cited references therefore do not disclose or suggest every limitation of any of claims 1, 3 or 7.

The remaining pending claims all depend from claims 1, 3, and 7, and therefore contain the same limitations not disclosed or suggested by the cited references.

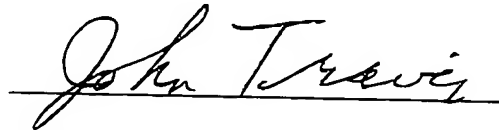
Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, and indication of allowance by the Examiner is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions concerning this application, he or she is requested to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number shown below as soon as possible. If any fee insufficiency or overpayment is found, please charge any insufficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

Intel Corporation

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